

Description of Invention

Each additional page should be signed and dated by the inventor(s) and witness(es).

A. Prior solutions and their disadvantages (if available, attach copies of product literature, technical articles, patents, etc.)
Other solutions are available for long bed pickups to drive two four-wheelers up on top of the bed. The platform puts the four wheelers approximately four inches above the truck bed sides. The platform is usually connected to the truck but because of the high center of gravity the truck leans from side to the side. Most of the solutions extend beyond the end of the truck bed and can interfere with a trailer pulled behind the truck. Some of the solutions can be adapted to short bed pickups but are generally not transferable.

B. Problems solved by the invention


Two four wheelers can be carried on a short bed truck
Carrying four wheelers in the back of the truck does not increase risk of tipping
A crane is not necessary to load and unload the support structure from the back of the truck
Operator is not required to drive the four-wheeler up such a steep angle
Reduced risk of driving off the platform
Less space is required to store the platform when not in use

C. Advantages of the invention over what has been done before

Lower center of gravity for stability in transit
Wheels are constrained in position to minimize movement during transit
One person can assemble the parts by themselves
Four-wheelers can be driven onto support platform on back of truck at an angle that is no more than 30 degrees
Allows for storage underneath the four wheelers
Parts can be integrated for storage in the smallest amount of space

D. Description of the construction and operation of the invention (include appropriate schematic, block, & timing diagrams; drawings; samples; graphs; flowcharts; computer listings; test results; etc.)

The purpose of this invention is to carry two four wheelers on a short bed pickup with the intent to keep the center of gravity as low as possible and minimize the amount of movement of the four-wheelers.
The platform has been constructed of square tubing in five parts. The five parts are assembled in the bed of the truck to form a platform that spans the bed of the truck and a ramp to drive up to the platform. The platform is designed so that each four-wheeler straddles a side of the bed with two wheels outside of the bed and the other two wheels resting inside the bed of the truck. One platform piece (front platform) is laid across the front of the truck bed and anchored to the truck bed through the post holes. The other platform piece (back platform) is laid across the back of the truck bed and anchored to the truck bed through the post holes. The ramp extension connects to the back platform and is supported by the tailgate. The ramp extension is positioned on the left or right depending on which unit is being loaded. The ramp extension allows the four-wheeler to clear the end of the truck bed and gradually raise the four-wheeler to the level of the platform.
Two runner pieces connect the back platform piece to the front platform piece. The runners allow a track for the wheels to transfer from the back to the front as the four-wheeler is driven onto the platform. The wheels drop into an opening that restricts movement from front to back and from left to right.
The two pieces are transferred from the left position to the right position depending on which unit is being loaded. They are removable and do not need to be in position for transport once the four wheelers are loaded.
Attached drawings and pictures include:
CAD drawing of front, top, and side view without dimensions – shows six parts
CAD drawing of front, top, and side view with dimensions – shows six parts
Parts list – Color coded with CAD drawings to show sizes
Drawing – showing detail parts and explaining specifics
Picture – Side view of two four-wheelers loaded on a short bed pickup
Picture – Rear view of two four-wheelers loaded on a short bed pickup
Picture – Driving four-wheeler up ramp
Picture – Support platform in storage



INVENTION DISCLOSURE

PAGE ONE OF TWO

Descriptive Title of Invention:

Low riding ATV transporter for short bed pickups

Name of Project:

ATV platform

Was a description of the invention published, or are you planning to publish? If so, the date(s) and publication(s):

NO

Was a product including the invention announced, offered for sale, sold, or is such activity proposed? If so, the date(s) and location(s):

Not yet, but I would like to as soon as possible

Was the invention disclosed to anyone, or will such disclosure occur? If so, the date(s) and name(s):

Korey Lowder – May 30, 2003

Kenny Johnson – July 22, 2003

Dave Travers – August 11, 2003

Have any other applications been submitted that are related to this application? If so, list the other applications:

NO

Was the invention described in a lab book or other record? If so, please identify (lab book #, etc.)

Computer drawings

Was the invention built or tested? If so, the date:

Prototype built – June 20, 2003

First working model – Sept 22, 2003

Was this invention made under a government contract? If so, the agency and contract number:

NO

INVENTION DISCLOSURE

Signature of Witness(es): (Please try to obtain the signature of the person(s) to whom invention was first disclosed.)

The invention was first explained to, and understood by, me (us) on:

Full Name

Korey Lowder

Signature

Date first Understood

5/30/03

Date of Signature

9/26/03

Full Name

Dave Travers

Signature

Date first Understood

8-11-03

Date of Signature

9-26-03

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